

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Possible Virus Influenza Epidemic	DATE DISTR.	5 February 1954
		NO. OF PAGES	1
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT	
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. On 19 November 1953, one of the hospitals at Berlin-Buch reported either two or three cases of virus influenza¹ to the Ministry of Health. The cases were fatal.
2. On the same day, Dr. Josef Rubens, chief medical officer of the People's Police (VP) ordered 80 liters of virus influenza vaccine from the vaccine works (Impfstoffwerk) at Berlin-Niederschneeeweide.
3. The anti-epidemic department of the Health Inspectorate of the Ministry of Health is concerned about this matter and fears the start of a virus influenza epidemic in East Germany.

1. Comment: The German term used was Virus Grippe.

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